

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 21376 220613Z

20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 SAJ-01 DPW-01 DRC-01 EUR-25 /135 W

----- 076905

R 220430Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0252

INFO CINCPAC

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 21376

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS MILI VS

SUBJ: INCREASE IN ENEMY ACTIVITY IN MR 3

HEREWITH REPEAT OF AMCONSUL BIEN HOA MESSAGE 0669

ACTION AMEMBASSY SAIGON INFO AMCONSUL CANTHO, AMCONSUL DANANG,  
AMCONSUL NHA TRANG, USDAO SAIGON FYI AND ACTION QUOTE:

1. NUMBER OF MILITARY INCIDENTS IN MR 3, WHICH HAVE RECENTLY  
BEEN RUNNING AT ABOUT 25 PER DAY AVERAGE, INCREASED TO 30 FOR DAY  
ENDING 0800 HOURS DECEMBER 20 AND TO 41 FOR DAY ENDING 0800 HOURS  
DECEMBER 21. INCREASE IS CONCENTRATED IN THREE PROVINCES:  
HAU NGHIA, BINH DUONG AND LONG AN.

2. IN HAU NGHIA, ACTION HAS CENTERED IN TRANG BANG DISTRICT  
WITH UPSURGE IN GROUND CONTACTS AND ABF'S CONTINUING TREND OF PAST  
COUPLE OF WEEKS. (SEE REF A FOR LATEST TRANG BANG INCIDENTS).  
CU CHI DISTRICT INCIDENTS ALSO REFLECT INCREASED NVA/VC ACTIVITY  
NEAR SAIGON RIVER CORRIDOR BASE AREAS WITH DECEMBER 19 SHELLING  
OF TRUNG LAP BASE CAMP AT XT 593216 (8ROUNDS 82MM., 8 FRIENDLY  
WIA), A HAMLET ENTRY SAME DAY RESULTING IN 14 KIA (REF B), AND  
ASSORTED MININGS. OTHER HAU NGHIA DISTRICTS REPORT ONLY NORMAL  
LEVEL AND SEVERITY OF INCIDENTS.

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 21376 220613Z

3. ACTIVITY IN BINH DUONG IS CENTERED IN PHU GIAO DISTRICT

AGAINST OPERATIONS OF ARVN 18TH DIVISION. ON DECEMBER 20 - 21, ACTIVITY PICKED UP IN BEN CAT - LAI KHE AREA WITH TWO ATTACKS BY FIRE AND TWO MININGS.

4. ACTIVITY IN LONG AN CONSISTED MOSTLY OF MININGS WHICH WERE SPREAD EVENLY WITH ONE OR TWO INCIDENTS PER DISTRICT TOTALLING FIVE ON DECEMBER 20, UP FROM ONE ON DECEMBER 19. AN RF PATROL ELEMENT SEARCHING 9KM NE CAN GIUOC DISTRICT (XS 925750) FOUND QUANTITY OF VC DOCUMENTS INCLUDING OVERLAY OF NHA BE POL DUMP AND TWO MAPS OF SAIGON/GIA DINH/CAN GIOC AREA.

5. ACTIVITY IN ALL OTHER MR 3 PROVINCES REMAINED AT NORMAL LEVELS, BUT PRESSURE ON KHIEM HANH DISTRICT, TAY NINH, REMAINED HIGH WITH CONTINUED DAYTIME SHELLING OF SUBSECTOR HQ. COMMUNIST PRESSURES ON ROUTE 1A IN PHUOC LONG AND ROUTE 23 IN PHUOC TUY ARE EASING. PHUOC LONG SOURCES REPORTED THAT COMMUNISTS PERMITTED CIVILIAN TRUCK TO TRAVEL ON ROUTE 1A FROM DONG XOAI, PHUOC LONG, TO PHU GIAO, BINH DUONG AFTERNOON DECEMBER 20. ON SAME DAY CONSULATE GENERAL PERSONNEL WERE ABLE TO DRIVE ON ROUTE 23 FROM PHUOC TUY CAPITAL (BARIA) TO XUYEN MOC DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS. PHUOC TUY PROVINCE CHIEF EXPLAINED THAT MANY VC/NVA ELEMENTS, FORMERLY OPERATING IN VICINITY ROUTE 23, HAVE RECENTLY SHIFTED TO LONG KHANH. WALKINSHAW UNQUOTE  
BENNETT

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** MOPS, MILI, VS, VN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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